



General Assembly

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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

**Afghanistan, Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sudan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan:
draft resolution**

Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination³ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁴

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote and protect cultural diversity, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation,⁵ proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,

Reaffirming that cultural diversity and the rights of all peoples and nations to freely pursue their cultural development is a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of mankind,

Considering that ignorance of cultural diversity and intolerance towards various cultures hinders friendship among nations, peaceful cooperation and the progress of mankind,

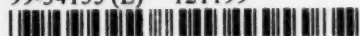
¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁴ Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁵ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.



Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value which must be respected and preserved, and convinced also that in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all mankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism, tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would enhance the right of all peoples and nations to preserve their cultures and traditions and engage in mutually enriching exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the right of all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in an international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all peoples and nations will enhance cultural pluralism, contributing to wider exchange of knowledge and cultural background, advance the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and foster stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

3. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national and international levels is essential for the recognition of and respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity and the protection of the rights of all peoples and nations to freely pursue their cultural development;

4. *Calls upon* States, international organizations, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights, to recognize and respect cultural diversity and uphold the principle that all peoples and nations have the right to hold, develop and preserve their culture;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.
